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## **Joint Committee Hearing on the Flint Water Public Health Emergency**

[Flint pediatrician asks Congress for money, programs](#)

By Rick Pluta, Michigan Radio 04/13/16 6:00 PM

Michigan health and environmental department chiefs were in Washington today to explain the state's response to the Flint water crisis to members of Congress. Nick Lyons directs the state Department of Health and Human Services. He said it's plain the state should have done more sooner.

[Panel hears Michigan's 'lessons' in Flint](#)

By Keith Laing & Jim Lynch, Detroit News 04/13/16 5:14 PM [video clip]

House lawmakers failed to probe Michigan's top health official Wednesday about why a Flint-area Legionnaires' outbreak wasn't publicized until January, a reflection of a largely non-

confrontational congressional hearing. The hearing, scheduled by House Energy and Commerce Chairman Fred Upton, R-St. Joseph, was billed as focusing on “impacts and lessons learned” from the Flint water crisis.

#### Flint was 'perfect storm' for water crisis, experts tell Congressional committee

By Ron Fonger, MLIVE 04/13/16 4:38 PM

Flint's water crisis isn't likely to duplicate itself elsewhere in the country -- even in other water systems at risk of high lead levels or other contamination, experts told a Congressional subcommittee in Washington, D.C., today, March 13.

#### Snyder's top health official says people deserved better in Flint water crisis

By Ron Fonger, MLIVE 04/13/16 12:11 PM

Gov. Rick Snyder's director of Health and Human Services says his department could have done better in handling the Flint water crisis, including lead contamination and an outbreak of Legionnaires' disease here. In prepared testimony before the House Committee on Energy and Commerce today, DHHS Director Nick Lyon is expected to tell members of a subcommittee, "We know that we could have done better."

#### Testimony for Hearing on “The Flint Water Crisis: Impacts and Lessons Learned”

Joan Alker-Georgetown University Health Policy Institute—remarks during the hearing  
04/13/16

My name is Joan Alker, and I am the Executive Director of the Georgetown University Center for Children and Families and an Associate Research Professor at Georgetown’s McCourt School of Public Policy. In my work at Georgetown University I have studied the Medicaid program for many years with a particular focus on children. I have also done considerable work on Medicaid Section 1115 waivers – a topic that I had the opportunity to testify about in front of the Health Subcommittee last year. Thank you very much for the opportunity to testify again though today’s topic is indeed a sobering one.

#### Upton Committee Holds Forward Looking Hearing on Flint Water Crisis

Press Release from Fred Upton-Michigan 6<sup>th</sup> District 04/13/16

Congressman Fred Upton, R-St. Joseph, today led a congressional hearing on the Flint Water Crisis, and how we can move forward. The hearing, “Flint Water Crisis: Impacts and Lessons Learned,” was held before the House Energy and Commerce Committee’s Subcommittee on Environment and the Economy and the Subcommittee on Health.

#### What to watch for at today's Flint water hearing

By Matthew Dolan, Detroit Free Press 04/13/16 1:47 PM

The U.S. Congress today will take another crack at dissecting the Flint water issue, arguably the nation's most prominent public health crisis. A House oversight committee panel held two hearings earlier this year on the lead contamination of Flint's drinking water supply. The hearings featured a number of prominent witnesses, including Gov. Rick Snyder and federal Environmental Protection Agency administrator Gina McCarthy, who engaged in a spirited back and forth with congressional members about who was responsible for the city's calamity.

## **Skin Rashes in Flint**

#### In Flint, Rashes Stir Fears of Showering as Scientists Hunt for Culprit

By Abby Goodnough, New York Times 04/13/16

Two years after Flint switched the source of its water, setting off a citywide health crisis, residents are still dealing with bottled water, filters and the inconvenience of living without safe drinking water. But near the top of the list of daily challenges that residents face is how and where to shower. The complaints are so persistent — and the anxiety is so high — that Dr. Nicole Lurie, an assistant secretary at the United States Department of Health and Human Services who is coordinating the federal recovery effort here, said she had asked the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Environmental Protection Agency to work with the state on investigating whether the water quality was contributing to skin problems.

## **State of Emergency Extension**

#### Michigan extends state of emergency for Flint over water crisis

By Reuters 04/13/16 5:16 PM

Michigan lawmakers on Wednesday extended the state of emergency in Flint for four months, enabling the city to tap more state funds and coordinate a response with other authorities to the

crisis over lead contamination in the city's drinking water. The legislature matched the time line of the U.S. Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), which last month extended emergency assistance to Flint through Aug. 14 from mid-April. Aid has included supplies of bottled water, filters and test kits.

#### Legislature extends emergency declaration for Flint water crisis

By Emily Lawler 04/13/16 4:35 PM

An ongoing crisis over Flint's drinking water prompted the legislature to extend the official state of emergency Wednesday. A concurrent resolution passed by the House and Senate today officially extends the state of emergency until August 14, 2016. Sen. Arlan Meekhof, R-West Olive, said that brought the state in line with the Federal Emergency Management Agency timeline.

#### Michigan Legislature extends Flint 'emergency'

By Jonathan Oosting, Detroit News 04/13/16 4:30 PM

Legislators on Wednesday approved Gov. Rick Snyder's request to extend a "state of emergency" in Flint through Aug. 14. Snyder first declared an emergency on Jan. 5 due to the city's ongoing water contamination crisis. The declaration was later extended but set to expire Thursday.

## **Flushing Pipes**

#### Lack of water use keeping Flint's pipes contaminated

By Ed Adamczyk, UPI 04/13/16 11:30 AM

The tap water in Flint, Mich., is still unsafe to drink largely because residents aren't allowing it to flow through and clear out the city's pipes, a researcher said. Virginia Tech professor and water quality expert Marc Edwards on Tuesday delivered his Flint Water Study's second round of findings on the beleaguered city's tap water.

#### Researchers: Lag in water use slows Flint recovery

By Jim Lynch, Detroit News 04/13/16 12:47 AM

Flint residents aren't using enough water to pull necessary chemical treatments through the city's system, hindering efforts to get water up to safety standards in a community where residents are afraid to use their taps and loathe to pay for what comes out of them. Although the past six months have produced improvements, recent testing by Virginia Tech researchers, including expert Marc Edwards, shows contamination still at problem levels.

#### Flint Water Recovery Lagging As Residents Don't Let Tainted Water Run

By Laura Wagner, NPR 04/12/16 7:35 PM

Although Flint, Mich., switched water sources six months ago, lead contamination of city tap water persists, researchers say, largely because residents are not using the poisonous water enough. That's right — in an unfortunate cycle, the water additives that would "re-scale" corroded pipes in the water system, thereby preventing lead from leaching into the water, are not reaching the pipes because people in Flint don't want to pay for contaminated water that they can't use.

### **Other News & Opinions**

#### Demolition of Flint apartments spurs hope of north side growth

By Roberto Acosta, MLIVE 04/13/16 5:48 PM

Officials and residents hope the end of Glen Acres Apartments in Flint as part of a \$1.7 million project will mark the beginning on a new era of reinvestment and redevelopment on the city's north end. Workers from Lansing-based SC Environmental is working alongside employees from Laborers Local 1075 in Flint to remove asbestos and tear down 13 apartment buildings on more than 275,000 square feet on the 8-acre site by September.

#### Time for Snyder to Stop Shifting Water Crisis Blame -- Finley

By Deadline Detroit 04/13/16 3:25 PM

Detroit News editorial writer and columnist Nolan Finley commends Gov. Rick Snyder for taking blame for the Flint water crisis, but suggests the governor stop shifting blame. The governor is likely right that incompetence in both the local and state bureaucracies led to the initial failures that allowed lead into the water.

## America's water crisis is way bigger than Flint

By Emma Court, Market Watch 04/13/16 3:03 PM

Most municipalities in the U.S. have more in common with Flint than you'd think. Flint, of course, brought the danger of lead-poisoned water to the fore, yet that crisis represents only the tip of an iceberg that is the eastern Michigan city's — and the rest of America's — water worries.

## 25 Photos That Remind Us The Flint Water Crisis Is Far From Over

By John Haltiwanger, Elite Daily 04/13/16 2:13 PM

It's been months since the Flint water crisis reached a breaking point, but it still hasn't been solved. In 2016, an entire American community is living without life's most basic necessity: water.

## Flint doctor topping Hillary Clinton, Donald Trump in Time 100 vote

By Roberto Acosta 04/13/16 2:01 PM

Final votes are being cast for Time Magazine's 100 most influential people list, with a Flint doctor who informed the public of elevated lead in children in the running for the recognition. Dr. Mona Hanna-Attisha, director of the Pediatric Residency Program at Hurley Medical Center, is currently at 1.1 percent of the vote total, alongside U.S. Sen. Elizabeth Warren, talk show hosts Stephen Colbert and John Oliver, and German Chancellor Angela Merkel.

## Flint water crisis work earns MLive reporter Journalist of the Year award

By Molly Young, MLIVE 04/13/16 11:14 AM

MLive reporter Ron Fonger was named Journalist of the Year Tuesday night, April 12, by the Detroit chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists for his work on the Flint water crisis. Fonger's dogged reporting broke news on health problems with the water system well before the story mushroomed into an international story after the discovery of elevated lead levels in childrens' blood. Despite initial push-back from authorities on the issue, Fonger kept his focus and continued unbiased reporting, focusing on the issue at hand.

## Lifetime Is Making a Movie About the Flint, Mich., Water Crisis

By Yesha Callahan, The Root 04/13/16 6:38 AM

Time's February story "The Toxic Tap," by Josh Sanburn, which highlights Flint, Mich.'s water crisis, is being turned into a Lifetime movie. Because, why not? The network, known for its celebrity biopics, is now about to go all Erin Brockovich on us. According to the Hollywood Reporter, Flint will be produced by Craig Zadan and Neil Meron, the duo behind The Wiz Live! and the Steel Magnolias remake starring Queen Latifah.

## **Donations and Aid**

### Ruth Mott Foundation awards \$1.3M to support north side of Flint

By Dominic Adams, MLIVE 04/13/16 3:41 PM

Ten programs will receive \$1.3 million in grants under the Ruth Mott Foundation's new strategy in support of north Flint neighborhoods. The awards unveiled on Wednesday, April 13 at Berston Field House, are the first under the foundation's five-year strategic plan to concentrate its funding in north Flint and its neighborhoods.

### Ruth Mott Foundation awards \$1.3M to boost north Flint neighborhoods

By AP for Detroit Free Press 04/13/16 12:38 PM

The Ruth Mott Foundation is awarding \$1.3 million under a new strategy to strengthen north Flint neighborhoods and create opportunities for residents. The funding announced Wednesday will go toward 10 programs that represent four priority areas. Those areas are youth, safety, economic opportunity and neighborhoods, and they include youth programs out of school hours, anti-blight efforts, job training and neighborhood centers.

### Jamaican Innovation to help Flint Michigan residents

By South Florida Caribbean News 04/13/16

Members from Servants Without Borders, a Washington, DC non-profit, will travel to Kingston, Jamaica to discuss supply chain solutions with AquaFlow Owner Jovan Evans, and promote the #ShowerFlint campaign. Through its #ShowerFlint campaign, Servants Without Borders has partnered with Jovan Evans, Branson Centre of Entrepreneurship – Caribbean's (BCoEC)

entrepreneur and creator of the Pump-n-Spray, to aid Flint residents as they weather this environmental disaster.

**Mary Radebach**

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